SINGH): (a) and (b). The public sector oil companies in consultation with Government are operating a scheme for awarding dealership/distributorship under 'Special Objective Scheme', covering the establishment of petrol pumps and dealership in LPG. Under the scheme 25% of the dealership/distributorship is reserved for SCs/STs. Financial assistance is given by banks to the allottees, including SCs/STs, of various categories for dealership/distributorship awarded by the public sector oil companies. However, the data collection system in RBI does not generate information about the number of such beneficiaries, state-wise, who have obtained loans from the banks.

Trade Relations with Cuba

4786. SHRI B.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Cuba for India as major ally' appearing in the Hindustan Times dated November 27, 1991; and

(b) if so, the fields in which trade relations between India and Cuba are proposed to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Both India and Cuba are contracting parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) which covers trade relations amongst all signatories to GATT. In addition, India and Cuba are also members of the Global Systems of Trade Preferences (GSTP) which provides for preferential trading arrangements among the members of the G-77.

Indo-Cuban trade covers a wide variety of goods, Major Indian exports are engineering goods, project goods, textiles, and chemicals and allied products. Major Indian imports from Cuba are crude minerals, metalliferrous ores & metal scrap, medicinal & pharmaceutical products.

[*Translation*]

Export of Agricultural Products and Fruits

4787. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agricultural products and fruits being exported from India;

(b) the scheme formulated by the Government to increase the production of the products, proposed to be exported during 1992; and

(c) the incentives and facilities provided by the Government to farmers to increase the production of such products?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Spieces, cashew, tobacco, rice, wheat, sugar, fresh fruits and vegetables, processed fruits and vegetables, coarse grains like maize, barley, jowar, ragi are the major agricultural products exported from India.

(b) and (c). To increase agricultural production in order to generate surpluses for exports, the following three-fold strategy is followed: (i) increase in area/yield; (ii) productivity efficiencies through adoption of best production and post harvest technologies and high quality management; and (iii) back-up support through relevant R&D and extension. It is a continuous process.